

The People's airwaves are protected by the FCC to ensure technical compatibilities. In prior years the Fairness Doctrine also protected political and personal compatibilities. Although those days are gone, Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of misuse of the Public's airways to broadcast disguised information.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.